

## Message Text

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ACTION IO-10

INFO OCT-01 EA-07 NEA-10 ISO-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-04 H-02

INR-07 L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-05 PA-01 PRS-01 SP-02 SS-15

USIA-06 AF-06 ARA-06 EUR-12 OMB-01 AID-05 /104 W

----- 130361

R 201200Z AUG 75

FM AMEMBASSY KUWAIT

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 3525

INFO AMEMBASSY ALGIERS

AMEMBASSY JIDDA

AMEMBASSY LIMA

AMEMBASSY SEOUL

AMEMBASSY TEHRAN

USMISSION USUN NEW YORK

AMEMBASSY CAIRO

C O N F I D E N T I A L KUWAIT 3427

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: PFOR KS KU UNGA

SUBJECT: KUWAITI POSITION ON KOREAN QUESTION AT NON-ALIGNED  
CONFERENCE AND UNGA

REFS: A) STATE 187145; B) STATE 193693; C) STATE 195240;  
D) KUWAIT 2659

SUMMARY: LOOKING OVER THEIR SHOULDER AT SOME OF THEIR BIGGER  
ARAB BROTHERS, KUWAITIS ARE RELUCTANT TO COMMIT THEMSELVES IN  
ADVANCE ON KOREAN ISSUE EITHER AT NON-ALIGNED CONFERENCE OR AT UNGA.  
HOWEVER, THEY SEEM WELL-DISPOSED TO ROK AND WILL DO WHAT THEY CAN  
TO TAKE AT LEAST EVENHANDED POSITION AS BETWEEN  
NORTH AND SOUTH KOREA. END SUMMARY

1. DURING PAST WEEK I HAVE HAD EXTENSIVE TALKS ON KOREAN  
QUESTION WITH KOREAN REPS (TRADE REP JAE-WON ROH IN KUWAIT AND  
VISITING ROK FONMINISTRY VICE MINISTER SHIN YONG LHO) AND WITH  
KUWAITI FONMIN SABAH AL-AHMAD JUST PRIOR TO HIS DEPARTURE FOR NON-  
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ALIGNED CONFERENCE IN LIMA AND UNGA. FOLLOWING IS SUMMARY:

2. KOREANS MADE CLEAR TO ME THEIR MAIN FOCUS RIGHT NOW IN TALKING TO GOK IS ON NON-ALIGNED CONFERENCE (NAC). KUWAIT IS IMPORTANT TO THEM BECAUSE IT IS ON NON-ALIGNED STEERING COMMITTEE (ALONG WITH ALGERIA, UNFORTUNATELY, WHICH LIKELY DOMINATE KUWAIT IN COMMITTEE). VICE MIN LHO TOLD KUWAITI FONMIN (WHO SAW HIM FOR 45 MINUTES, A GOOD SIGN OF INTEREST) THAT ROK WOULD BE SATISFIED AT MINIMUM WITH KUWAITI EVENHANDED POSITION ON QUESTION OF NORTH AND SOUTH KOREAN MEMBERSHIP IN NAC; I.E. BOTH IN OR BOTH OUT. KUWAITI FONMIN TOLD KOREANS FRANKLY THAT WHILE VIEWS OF LARGE ARAB STATES WOULD OF NECESSITY INFLUENCE KUWAITI POSITION, HE WOULD TRY TO HOLD TO LINE THAT NEITHER SHOULD BE ADMITTED AS MEMBERS. KUWAITI FONMIN SAID THAT WAS BEST HE COULD EXPECT TO DO. ACCORDING TO LHO, FONMIN SABAH WAS ALSO FOR SAME REASON NON-COMMITTAL RE POSITION GOK WOULD TAKE ON AUG 8 HOSTILE RESOLUTION. HOWEVER, HE APPEARED SYMPATHETIC TO ROK VIEWS AND AGAIN SOMEHOW HOPEFUL NAC CONSIDERATION OF HOSTILE RESOLUTION WOULD NOT PRODUCE CONCENSUS IN FAVOR. FONMIN TOLD LHO FRANKLY THAT KUWAITI POSITION AT UN ON KOREAN ISSUE DEPENDED UPON HOW IT FARED AT NAC. LHO DRILY COMMENTED THAT AT LEAST KUWAITIS BEING HONEST.

3. I AGREED WITH LHO THAT I WOULD SPEAK TO FONMIN SABAH, BEARING DOWN ON KUWAITI ATTITUDE AT NAC WHERE LHO APPEARS HAVE HOPES (A) THAT KUWAITIS WILL ADHERE TO NON-ACCEPTANCE OF MEMBERSHIP OF EITHER KOREAS AND (B) THAT NAC AGENDA IS SO LONG THAT KOREAN ISSUE WILL NOT LOOM LARGE IN NAC DELIBERATIONS. LHO SAID KOREANS WILL WANT TO GET BACK TO KUWAITIS AFTER NAC WITH PITCH NATURE OF WHICH DEPENDED UPON HOW KOREAN ISSUE TURNS OUT AT NAC.

4. I SAW FONMIN SABAH AUG 18. HE CONFIRMED KUWAITIS WILL TRY TO ADHERE TO POSITION THAT NONE OF APPLICANTS TO NAC (HE NAMED AUSTRALIA, PHILIPPINES, RUMANIA AS WELL AS TWO KOREAS) SHOULD BE ADMITTED ON GROUNDS NONE WERE TRULY NON-ALIGNED. (SABAH SAID JOKINGLY "NEVER MIND THAT MOST OF THOSE IN ALREADY ARE NOT NON-ALIGNED EITHER.") I STRESSED IMPORTANCE OF NEGATIVE POSITION ON HOSTILE RESOLUTION BOTH AT NAC AND AT UNGA POINTING OUT THAT IT DIAMETRICALLY OPPOSITE IN INTENT TO GOK POLICY WHICH WAS TO PROMOTE, NOT DIVERT, DIALOGUE BETWEEN NORTH AND

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SOUTH KOREA. I ALSO EXPLAINED AT LENGTH US VETO OF VIETNAMESE UN MEMBERSHIP APPLICATIONS. I EXPRESSED PERSONAL VIEW NORTH KOREAN REFUSAL APPLY FOR MEMBERSHIP WAS IN A SENSE TRANSPARENT COMMUNIST PLOY TO MAKE THEIR OPPOSITION TO SOUTH KOREAN MEMBERSHIP, AND THEIR EFFORT DIVORCE VIETNAMESE APPLICATIONS FROM THAT OF KOREA, APPEAR MORE LOGICAL.

5. COMMENT: I DO NOT BELIEVE WE CAN REALISTICALLY EXPECT

TIMID LITTLE KUWAIT TO TAKE CLEAR POSITION IN OPPOSITION TO ALGERIA  
OR OTHER LARGE ARAB STATES ON KOREAN OR ANY OTHER ISSUE IN NAC  
OR UNGA. HOWEVER, I AM PLEASANTLY SURPRISED AT DEGREE OF  
SEEMING INTEREST AND UNDERSTANDING OF FONMIN SABAH OF KOREAN  
ISSUE. I ACTUALLY BELIEVE KUWAITIS SEE FATE OF SOUTH KOREA  
POLITICALLY AS WELL AS ECONOMICALLY AS BEING OF SOME IMPORTANCE  
TO THEM. THEY WILL THEREFORE UNDOUBTEDLY DO THEIR BEST TO  
BE HELPFUL AT NAC AND UNGA. DEPT AND USUN WILL WANT TO  
FOLLOW UP WITH KUWAITIS - IN CONSULTATION WITH ROK REPS -  
AFTER LIME CONFERENCE ENDS.  
STOLTZFUS

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## Message Attributes

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